March 29, 1963
April 5, 1968

Part 4 B'ham 44-1740-1451

At 2:30 I call Aeromarine Supply Co. and ask if they had in stock a Luggage or hard gun case 45" in length. I spoke to Don Wood. He said they did have one in stock 48" long which was the length I needed for my rifle. I then drove to Aeromarine arriving about 3:00. Mr. Baker waited on me but was unable to find a hard Luggage type case 48" long. He had one 46" and 52". I ask to see Don Wood to see if he knew about a case which since I had spoke to him on the phone Mr. Baker did not. Also I was told Don had a catalogue on some new cases which Mr. Baker didn't know the particulars about. I was told Don Wood was out to lunch and would be back after while. I decided to wait for him.

At this time I noticed a man who was looking at some military rifles on display near where I was sitting. The man was about my height 5'10" and weighed about 170 lb., he had light ~~brown~~ brown hair and light eyes and a reddened complexion. I noticed a slight odor of alcohol on his breath when he looked at me. ~~The man spoke to Mr. Baker and~~ The man was dressed in a dark suit, white shirt, and tie. I noticed the back the legs of his suit were wrinkled ~~from~~ in the region of the knee and that the coat tails of his suit were wrinkled. ~~He~~ The man ~~spoke to~~ went

to the counter and ask Mr Baker to show him a deer rifle. He said he could get one now and since he might never have a chance to get another one he wanted a good one. Mr. Baker showed him a Browing bolt act rifle .cal. .243 Win. The thoughts that ran through my mind while Mr. Baker was showing the man these rifles were that the man was not a sports man. There was something about the way he acted that just said he was no sportsman. When Mr. Baker showed him a scope, for example, he held it close to his eye to try to see through it. Most people who have ever used a telescopic sight for a high powered rifle know that it has a long eye relief to prevent the scope cutting or injuring the face or eye when the rifle recoils. The man did not seem interested in the finer points of information about the rifles, he would look at a rifle, heft it and listen to Mr. Baker. I had my varmit rifle laying on the counter and I closed the case it was in and put it aside not wanting the man to see it because knowing this man was not a sports man and due to the fact he was drinking I thought now there's some one out to shoot somebody. Of course I dismissed the thought from my mind and conversed with

a couple of other men who were looking at some pistols.

Mr. Baker showed the man a Remington mod. 700 varmit model cal. .243 Win. and a Remington mod 700 std weight cal. .243 Win. with ~~cross~~ iron sights installed. He also showed a Rem. mod 722? 788 ~~with~~ cal. .30-30

The man decided he liked the Rem. mod. 700 std. weight the best. The attention then turned to the kind of scope and Mr. Baker get a Redfield variable 2½ - 7X out of the case. (I referred to the man looking through this scope ~~earlier~~ above)

The man agreed to the purchase. Mr. Baker then proceeded to mount the scope and while he was getting out his equipment the man went outside. Mr. Baker commented to me. "That fellow doesn't know anything about rifles." (the mounts used on the rifle were Redfield Jr.) When the man came back in I spoke to him and as I remember the conversation was, ~~I said~~

"That's an awful lot of rifle you've got there"

"Yes"?

"Yes, It will take you a long time to really learn how to use it"

"Well I've got a chance to get a rifle now

and since I may never get another one I want a good one."

Well you have really got a good rifle there."

Something was said about the calibre and I'm not sure about what was said but it was about its power. I asked him what kind of hunting he was going to do.

"Deer hunting. My Brouther in law has asked me to go deer hunting with him in Wisconson.

About this time Don Woods came in and purchased a luggage type gun case. completed my business and left.